

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ A speech recognition system ~~according to claim 3~~
comprising:

a plurality of voice pickup means for picking up uttered voices;

determination means for determining a speech signal suitable for speech
recognition from speech signals output from said plurality of voice pickup means; and
speech recognition means for performing speech recognition based on said
speech signal determined by said determination means,

wherein said determination means acquires an average S/N value and average
voice power of each of said speech signals output from said plurality of voice pickup
means and selects said speech signal whose average S/N value and average voice
power are greater than respective predetermined threshold values as said speech
signal suitable for speech recognition, and

wherein~~[[:]]~~ said determination means determines a candidate order of those
speech signals whose average S/N values and average voice powers are greater than
said respective predetermined threshold values and which are candidates for said
speech signal suitable for speech recognition, in accordance with said average S/N
values and average voice powers; and

said speech recognition means sequentially executes speech recognition on said
candidates in accordance with said candidate order from a highest candidate to a lower
one.

5-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A speech recognition system ~~according to claim 9~~
comprising:

a plurality of voice pickup sections for picking up uttered voices;
a determination section for determining a speech signal suitable for speech
recognition from speech signals output from said plurality of voice pickup sections; and
a speech recognizer for performing speech recognition based on said speech
signal determined by said determination section,

wherein said determination section acquires an average S/N value and average
voice power of each of said speech signals output from said plurality of voice pickup
sections and selects said speech signal whose average S/N value and average voice
power are greater than respective predetermined threshold values as said speech
signal suitable for speech recognition, and

wherein said determination section determines a candidate order of those
speech signals whose average S/N values and average voice powers are greater than
said respective predetermined threshold values and which are candidates for said
speech signal suitable for speech recognition, in accordance with said average S/N
values and average voice powers; and

said speech recognizer sequentially executes speech recognition on said
candidates in accordance with said candidate order from a highest candidate to a lower
one.

11-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ speech recognition method according to claim
45 for a speech recognition system having a plurality of voice pickup means for picking
up voices, comprising:

a voice pickup step of picking up uttered voices using said plurality of voice
pickup means;

a determination step of determining a speech signal suitable for speech
recognition from speech signals output from said plurality of voice pickup means; and

a speech recognition step of performing speech recognition based on said
speech signal determined by said determination step,

wherein said determination step includes a step of acquiring an average S/N
value and average voice power of each of said speech signals output from said plurality
of voice pickup means and selecting said speech signal whose average S/N value and
average voice power are greater than respective predetermined threshold values as
said speech signal suitable for speech recognition,

wherein said determination step further includes a step of determining a
candidate order of those speech signals whose average S/N values and average voice
powers are greater than said respective predetermined threshold values and which are
candidates for said speech signal suitable for speech recognition, in accordance with
said average S/N values and average voice powers; and

said speech recognition step sequentially executes speech recognition on said
candidates in accordance with said candidate order from a highest candidate to a lower
one.

17-18. (Canceled).